

BOOK REVIEW

ARTHUR HAINES, WITH ILLUS. BY ELIZABETH FARNSWORTH AND GORDON MORRISON. 2011. **New England Wild Flower Society's FLORA NOVAE ANGLIAE: A Manual for the Identification of Native and Naturalized Higher Vascular Plants of New England.** (ISBN: 978-0-300-17154-9, cloth). Yale University Press, P.O. Box 209040, New Haven, Connecticut 06520-9040, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.yalebooks.com, 1-203-432-0163, 1-203-432-8485 fax). \$85.00, 1008 pp., 945 b/w illus., 7" × 9 1/2".

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont are usually considered the New England area and they are the focus of this much needed, new and updated study of their flora. In 2001 the New England Wild Flower Society hired Haines to visit every herbarium in the area and check out every rare plant specimen to determine if it still existed in the area, if it had been properly identified, and correctly named. His two-year study of the specimens indicated that one of every twelve specimens required clarification "to correct a misidentification or to identify a new species or infraspecific taxon that had been named since it had been collected." Although a couple of new floras for the area had been published previously, they primarily relied on M.L. Fernald's 1950 edition (the 8th) of *Gray's Manual of Botany*. This new volume is based on the outstanding work of current and recently deceased botanists, and it is a treasure-house of excellent research, field studies, and dedication to botany.

Following a very helpful Introduction and an updated Glossary of Terminology, is the Key to the Families, pp. 1–37. The heart of the book, though, is the whole set of taxonomic treatments (pp. 39–890). These are divided into the subgroups Lycophytes, Monilophytes, Gymnosperms, Magnoliids, Monocots, and Tricolpates.

Pages 891–915 contain the Literature Cited section. This is an amazing citing of the works of some of the most dedicated and talented botanists of the last half century as well as the current one. Just glance through this section. You will undoubtedly recognize name after name of botanists that you know or have known in the recent past—or perhaps, you simply recognize through your reading—and whose research and contributions have made a huge contribution to understanding better the flora of New England.

This volume is an outstanding contribution. The New England Wild Flower Society has provided a great service to all of us.—*Helen Jude, Volunteer & Assistant Editor, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.*